

Claims

- [c1] 1. An electroluminescent display of the type wherein a layer of electroluminescent material is sandwiched between but spaced from two electrode layers, which display has a plurality of separately-activatable individual areas each of electroluminescent (phosphor) material, in which display:
both the back electrode layer and also the electroluminescent material layer are each composed of a plurality of separate areas each matching in shape and size the image which the relevant portion of the display is to show.
- [c2] 2. A display as claimed in Claim 1 which uses, as the electroluminescent material, a particulate phosphor.
- [c3] 3. A display as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the particulate phosphor is zinc sulphide in the form of encapsulated particles.
- [c4] 4. A display as claimed in any of the preceding Claims, wherein the separately-activatable individual areas are grouped into sets of related character- defining segments each group of which can, by the activation of the

appropriate segments, define any character there to be displayed.

[c5] 5. A display as claimed in Claim 4, wherein each group is the standard seven-segment group commonly employed in modern electrical and electronic displays.

[c6] 6. A display as claimed in any of the preceding Claims and substantially as described hereinbefore.

[c7] 7. An electroluminescent display of the type wherein a layer of electroluminescent material is sandwiched between but spaced from two electrode layers, which display has a plurality of separately-activatable individual areas each of electroluminescent (phosphor) material, in which display:

the back electrode layer is composed of a plurality of separate areas each matching in shape and size the image which the relevant portion of the display is to show; a shield layer of electrically-conductive material shaped and sized as a negative of the shaped area back electrode is positioned as an intermediate electrode between and aligned with the shaped area electrode and the electroluminescent material layer; and means are provided enabling the shield layer intermediate electrode to be given the same electrical potential as the front electrode.

- [c8] 8. A display as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the means enabling the shield layer intermediate electrode to be maintained at the same electrical potential as the front electrode is a simple electrical connection between the two.
- [c9] 9. A display as claimed in either of Claims 7 and 8 which is also a display as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 6, and thus wherein the electroluminescent material (phosphor) layer is shaped into a plurality of image-defining areas.
- [c10] 10. A display as claimed in any of Claims 7 to 9 and substantially as described hereinbefore.